THE BEST OF BRITISH COMICS—IT'S

TERRIFIC

MARCH/MAR 30, 1968. © Odhams Press Ltd., England, 1968.

A POWER COMIC

No.38 EVERY MONDAY 9d

AUSTRALIA 10c. EAST AFRICA 1.25c. WEST AFRICA 1/-
SOUTH AFRICA 10c. RHODESIA 1/3 NEW ZEALAND 1/- (10c.)

Reg. T.M. & © Marvel Comics Group.

TERRIFIC ! printed in Great Britain by Fleetway Printers, 17 Sumner Street, London, S.E.1, and published by Odhams Press Ltd., Long Acre, London, W.C.2. Sole agents for Australia and New Zealand, Gordon & Gotch (A/sia) Ltd. ; South Africa, Central News Agency Ltd. Subscription Rates : Inland 12 months £3 0s. 8d. ; abroad 12 months £2 14s. 2d. Send orders to Subscription Dept., 8/9 Long Acre, London, W.C.2. CONDITIONS OF SALE : this periodical shall not, without the written consent of the Publishers, be lent, resold or hired out at more than the recommended selling price as shown on the cover, or otherwise disposed of in any unauthorised cover by way of trade ; or affixed to or as part of any publication or advertising, literary or pictorial matter whatsoever.

NOT VERY FAR AWAY, ON THE WEST SIDE OF TOWN, A BITTER MAN NAMED **DAVY CANNON** READS A NEWSPAPER ACCOUNT OF GIANT-MAN'S RECENT VICTORY OVER **EGG-HEAD!** *

WELL, WELL, SO MY OLD "PAL" GIANT-MAN IS HOGGIN' THE HEADLINES AGAIN, IS HE? I WONDER IF HE'S FORGOTTEN ABOUT **ME?**

HE PROBABLY DOESN'T EVEN KNOW THAT **THE HUMAN TOP** WAS FREED ON PAROLE LAST WEEK!

DAILY NEWS

EXCLUSIVE!!! * * **NEW GIANT-MAN ADVENTURES**

THE REPORTER-DISPATCH

GIANT-MAN DOES IT AGAIN! * *

* REFER TO TERRIFIC 37. EDITOR.

I REMEMBER OUR **LAST** BATTLE! I MADE HIM LOOK SICK ON THE ROOFTOPS!*

TERRIFIC 31 AND 32.---EDITOR.

I'D HAVE LICKED HIM WITH MY "TORNADO RUNNER" IF HE HADN'T LANDED ON SOME HIGH WIRES!

"MY BIGGEST MISTAKE WAS THINKING HE WAS **CLUMSY!** BOY, HOW WRONG I **WAS!** BUT I'LL NEVER UNDERESTIMATE HIM **AGAIN!**"

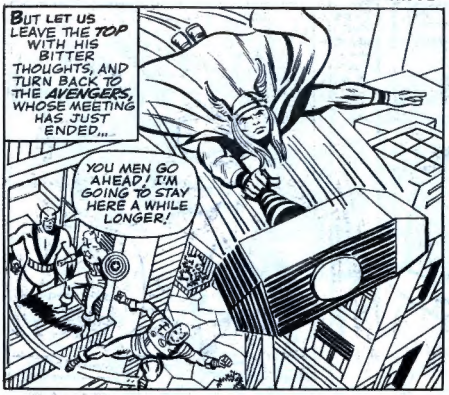
"HE FINALLY BEAT ME WHEN THE ROOF COLLAPSED UNDER ME! I'LL NEVER KNOW **WHY** IT DID!!!*

TO THIS DAY, THE **TOP** DOESN'T SUSPECT THAT THE **WASP** ORDERED A GROUP OF **TERMITES** TO WEAKEN THE ROOF.--EDITOR.

GIANT-MAN IS THE **ONLY** ONE EVER TO BEAT ME--AND I'LL NEVER REST TILL I PAY HIM **BACK** FOR IT! HE CAN'T IMAGINE HOW MUCH **MORE** DANGEROUS I AM **NOW** THAN I WAS!

"WITH MY SUPERHUMAN SPINNING POWER, I'VE LEARNED TO FOCUS THE FORCE OF THE AIR PRESSURE I GENERATE INTO A STREAM POWERFUL ENOUGH TO BLAST A HOLE IN A BRICK WALL!" AND I'VE LEARNED NOT TO WEAR THAT OLD STUPID COSTUME WHICH MADE ME TOO EASY TO RECOGNIZE!"

WHOOOSH!


BUT LET US LEAVE THE TOP WITH HIS BITTER THOUGHTS, AND TURN BACK TO THE AVENGERS, WHOSE MEETING HAS JUST ENDED...
YOU MEN GO AHEAD! I'M GOING TO STAY HERE A WHILE LONGER!

ALONE WITH THE WASP AT AVENGERS' HEADQUARTERS, THE GIANT-SIZED ADVENTURER ONCE MORE STUDIES THE FILMED ACCOUNT OF THE HULK'S LAST RECORDED BATTLE...
COME ON, BIG BOYFRIEND -- LET'S GO OUT TO DINNER! WE'VE SEEN THIS FILM A DOZEN TIMES!
I KNOW, JAN! I JUST CAN'T GET THE HULK OUT OF MY MIND! WELL, WE'LL TALK ABOUT HIM WHILE WE LEAVE!

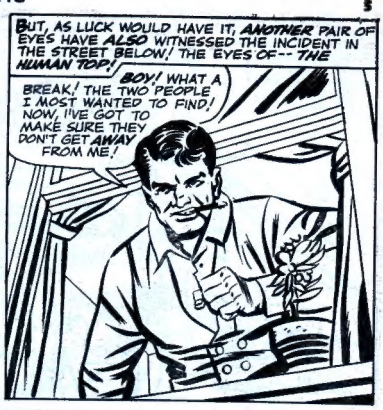
SO TAKE A PILL, BABY, AND WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY!
ONE THING FOR SURE— CHANGING SIZE CERTAINLY GIVES A GIRL AN APPITITE!

JUST IGNORE THOSE STREET CORNER WOLVES, HANK! THEY'RE NOT BOTHERING ME ONE BIT!
MAYBE NOT, JAN-- BUT THEY'RE SURE RUBBING ME THE WRONG WAY! OH WELL--I'LL PRETEND I DIDN'T HEAR THEM!
HEY, BOYS!! LOOK AT THE LIVIN' DOLL WALKIN' WITH THAT SQUARE!

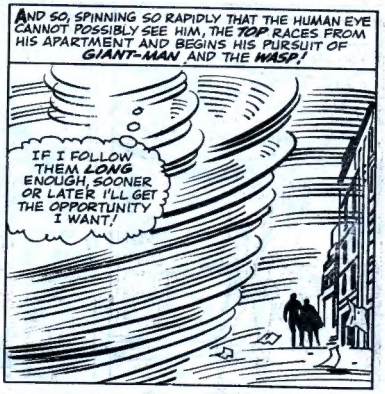
HEY, SISTER! WHY DON'T YOU DITCH THAT ITCH AND DATE A REAL MAN?? NAMELY ME!
WHAT ARE YOU TWO WEARIN'? LONG UNDERWEAR??
MMMM--COULD THAT BIRD AND ME MAKE BEAUTIFUL MUSIC?!!

C'MON, LET'S FOLLOW 'EM AND SEE WHA --WHA--HOLY HANNAH!! LOOK!!
IT'S G-GIANT MAN!!
OKAY, LOUD-MOUTHS!! IF YOU'RE LOOKIN' FOR A LITTLE ACTION, I'LL SEE IF I CAN OBLIGE YOU!
HANK'S REALLY MAD AT THEM! HOPE NOBODY GETS HURT!

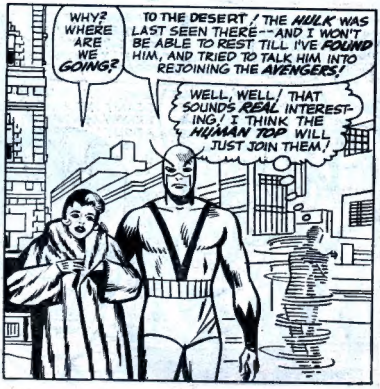
EXACTLY TWO MINUTES LATER--
AWW, COME BACK! DON'T LEAVE US LIKE THIS!
MILLIONS OF PEOPLE IN THIS TOWN, AND WE HADDA PICK ON GIANT-MAN!

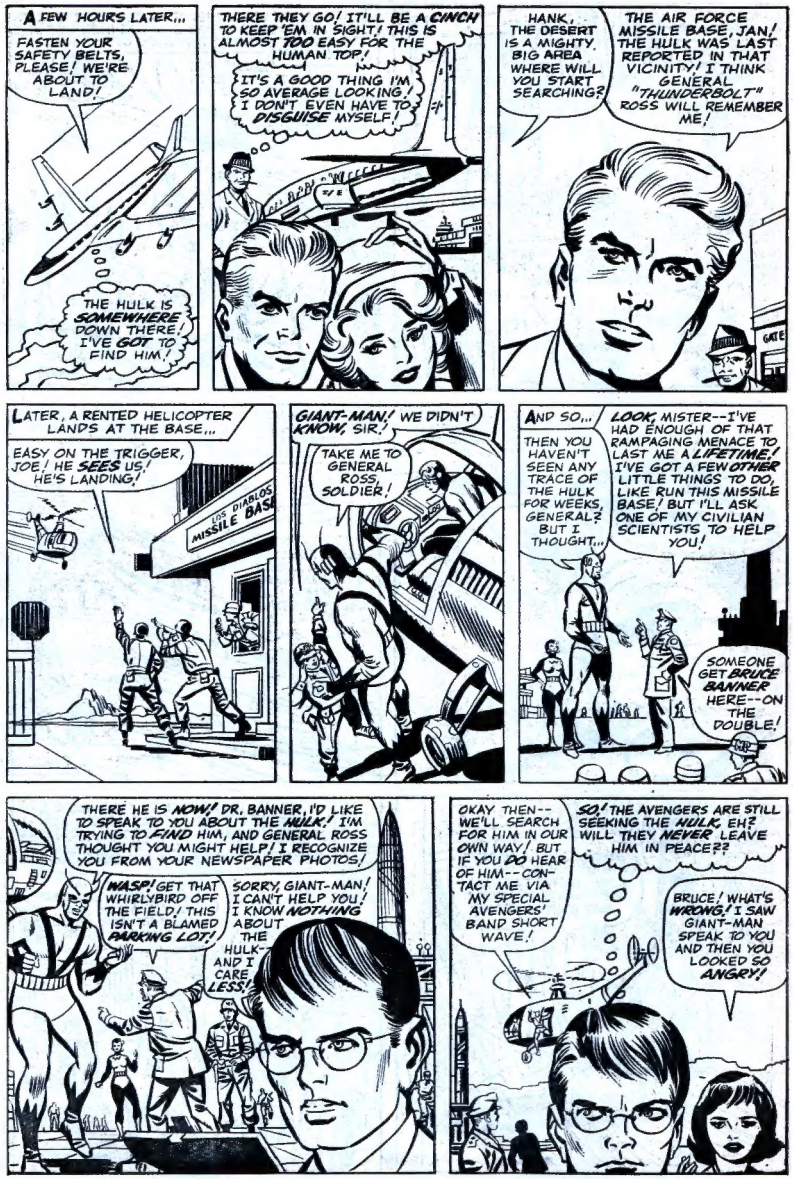

BUT, AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, ANOTHER PAIR OF EYES HAVE ALSO WITNESSED THE INCIDENT IN THE STREET BELOW! THE EYES OF -- THE HUMAN TOP!
BOY! WHAT A BREAK! THE TWO PEOPLE I MOST WANTED TO FIND! NOW, I'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE THEY DON'T GET AWAY FROM ME!

I'LL FOLLOW THEM, AND KEEP THEM IN SIGHT UNTIL THE TIME IS RIGHT FOR ME TO GET MY REVENGE ON THAT OVERGROWN CLOWN!

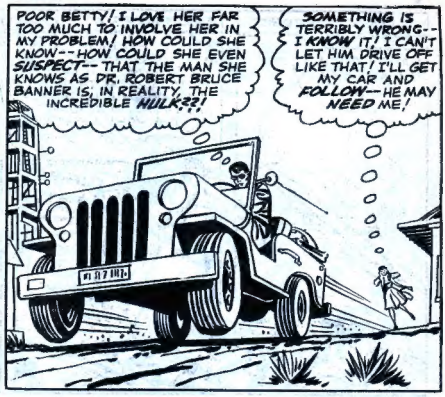

AND SO, SPINNING SO RAPIDLY THAT THE HUMAN EYE CANNOT POSSIBLY SEE HIM, THE TOP RACES FROM HIS APARTMENT AND BEGINS HIS PURSUIT OF GIANT-MAN AND THE WASP!
IF I FOLLOW THEM LONG ENOUGH, SOONER OR LATER I'LL GET THE OPPORTUNITY I WANT!

GOSH, HANK -- IT'S SO WINDY ALL OF A SUDDEN! LET'S GET TO THE RESTAURANT FAST!
SORRY, JAN! FORGET ABOUT DINNER FOR NOW! WE'RE TAKING A TRIP INSTEAD! WE'LL EAT ON THE PLANE!
205


WHY? WHERE ARE WE GOING?
TO THE DESERT! THE HULK WAS LAST SEEN THERE -- AND I WON'T BE ABLE TO REST TILL I'VE FOUND HIM, AND TRIED TO TALK HIM INTO REJOINING THE AVENGERS!
WELL, WELL! THAT SOUNDS REAL INTERESTING! I THINK THE HUMAN TOP WILL JUST JOIN THEM!


A FEW HOURS LATER...
FASTEN YOUR SAFETY BELTS, PLEASE! WE'RE ABOUT TO LAND!
THE HULK IS SOMEWHERE DOWN THERE! I'VE GOT TO FIND HIM!
THERE THEY GO! IT'LL BE A CINCH TO KEEP 'EM IN SIGHT! THIS IS ALMOST TOO EASY FOR THE HUMAN TOP!
IT'S A GOOD THING I'M SO AVERAGE LOOKING! I DON'T EVEN HAVE TO DISGUISE MYSELF!
HANK, THE DESERT IS A MIGHTY BIG AREA WHERE WILL YOU START SEARCHING?
THE AIR FORCE MISSILE BASE, JAN! THE HULK WAS LAST REPORTED IN THAT VICINITY! I THINK GENERAL "THUNDERBOLT" ROSS WILL REMEMBER ME!
GATE
LATER, A RENTED HELICOPTER LANDS AT THE BASE...
EASY ON THE TRIGGER, JOE! HE SEES US! HE'S LANDING!
LOS DIABLOS MISSILE BASE
GIANT-MAN! WE DIDN'T KNOW, SIR!
TAKE ME TO GENERAL ROSS, SOLDIER!
AND SO...
THEN YOU HAVEN'T SEEN ANY TRACE OF THE HULK FOR WEEKS, GENERAL? BUT I THOUGHT...
LOOK, MISTER--I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THAT RAMPAGING MENACE TO LAST ME A LIFETIME! I'VE GOT A FEW OTHER LITTLE THINGS TO DO, LIKE RUN THIS MISSILE BASE! BUT I'LL ASK ONE OF MY CIVILIAN SCIENTISTS TO HELP YOU!
SOMEONE GET BRUCE BANNER HERE--ON THE DOUBLE!
THERE HE IS NOW! DR. BANNER, I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO YOU ABOUT THE HULK! I'M TRYING TO FIND HIM, AND GENERAL ROSS THOUGHT YOU MIGHT HELP! I RECOGNIZE YOU FROM YOUR NEWSPAPER PHOTOS!
WASP! GET THAT WHIRLYBIRD OFF THE FIELD! THIS ISN'T A BLAMED PARKING LOT!
SORRY, GIANT-MAN! I CAN'T HELP YOU! I KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THE HULK--AND I CARE LESS!
OKAY THEN--WE'LL SEARCH FOR HIM IN OUR OWN WAY! BUT IF YOU DO HEAR OF HIM--CONTACT ME VIA MY SPECIAL AVENGERS' BAND SHORT WAVE!
SO! THE AVENGERS ARE STILL SEEKING THE HULK, EH? WILL THEY NEVER LEAVE HIM IN PEACE??
BRUCE! WHAT'S WRONG! I SAW GIANT-MAN SPEAK TO YOU AND THEN YOU LOOKED SO ANGRY!

NOTHING'S WRONG, BETTY! EVERYTHING'S WRONG! WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES IT MAKE! YOU'RE THE GENERAL'S DAUGHTER, AND I'M A HUMBLE ATOMIC SCIENTIST--WITH A SECRET I CAN NEVER REVEAL TO A LIVING SOUL!
BRUCE--WAIT! COME BACK! BRUCE, MY DARLING! I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU THIS WAY BEFORE! WAIT!


POOR BETTY! I LOVE HER FAR TOO MUCH TO INVOLVE HER IN MY PROBLEM! HOW COULD SHE KNOW--HOW COULD SHE EVEN SUSPECT-- THAT THE MAN SHE KNOWS AS DR. ROBERT BRUCE BANNER IS, IN REALITY, THE INCREDIBLE HULK??!
SOMETHING IS TERRIBLY WRONG-- I KNOW IT! I CAN'T LET HIM DRIVE OFF LIKE THAT! I'LL GET MY CAR AND FOLLOW-- HE MAY NEED ME!

HIS MIND IN A TURMOIL, NEVER DREAMING THAT GIANT-MAN HAS COME TO HELP THE HULK, BRUCE BANNER DRIVES INTO THE HILLS, A BURNING RAGE IN HIS HEART!
I'VE TRIED TO FORGET THE HULK--TO PRETEND HE NEVER EXISTED! BUT THEY WON'T LET ME--!!

NO! I MUSTN'T GET EXCITED! I MUSTN'T LET MY BLOOD PRESSURE RISE! WHEN IT DOES, I CAN'T CONTROL MYSELF! I--BEGIN TO CHANGE--

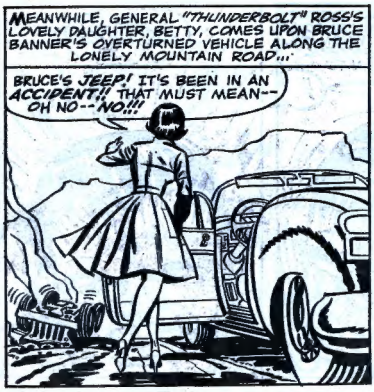
--INTO-- THE HULK!!

AND THUS, THE INCREDIBLE HULK APPEARS ONCE MORE!! THE STRONGEST LIVING MORTAL ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH! A RAGING HUMAN ENGINE OF DESTRUCTION AND WRATH!
SO!! GIANT-MAN SEEKS THE HULK, DOES HE??

WITH A BELLOW OF SHEER ANIMAL RAGE, THE MOST POWERFUL LEGS IN THE WORLD PROPEL THE HULK SKYWARD, IN THE FIRST OF HIS MANY PRODIGIOUS LEAPS--SO HIGH, AND SO FAST THAT HE SEEMS TO BE FLYING!
WELL, HE'LL FIND THE HULK--TO HIS EVERLASTING REGRET!

NOT LONG AFTERWARDS, PANIC SEIZES A NEARBY TOWN...
LOOK! IT'S THE HULK!
RUN! RUN! THE HULK IS HERE!
SOMEONE SEND FOR THE ARMY!! ONLY THEY CAN STOP HIM!

BUT, AMONG THE FEARFUL TOWNSPEOPLE, THERE IS ONE WHO SMILES WITH GLEE...
ALL THE BREAKS ARE FALLIN' MY WAY! THE HULK IS WHAT I NEED TO FINISH OFF GIANT-MAN!!


MEANWHILE, GENERAL "THUNDERBOLT" ROSS'S LOVELY DAUGHTER, BETTY, COMES UPON BRUCE BANNER'S OVERTURNED VEHICLE ALONG THE LONELY MOUNTAIN ROAD...
BRUCE'S JEEP! IT'S BEEN IN AN ACCIDENT!! THAT MUST MEAN-- OH NO--NO!!!

BUT, THERE'S NO SIGN OF BRUCE!! WAIT! THESE GLASSES-- HIS TORN COAT!! AND THOSE FOOTPRINTS!! THEY CAN ONLY BELONG TO-- THE HULK!

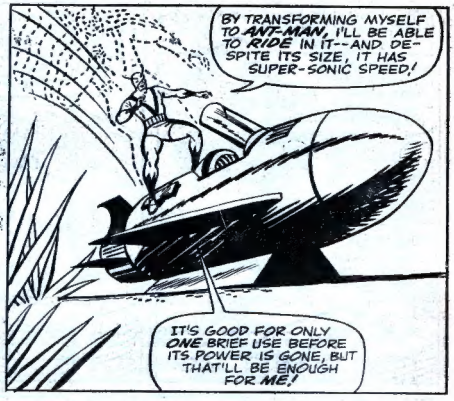
IT CAN ONLY MEAN-- THE HULK HAS TAKEN HIM-- THERE'S NO CHANCE FOR HIM!
LOOKS LIKE HANK AND I ARRIVED JUST IN TIME!

SEARCHING THE AREA ATOP A FLYING ANT, IN HIS ORIGINAL IDENTITY AS ANT-MAN, THE ASTONISHING ADVENTURER CRIES OUT...
THERE IS A CHANCE, MISS ROSS!

GIANT-MAN! BUT WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?? HOW--??
EXPLANATIONS ARE TOO BORING! BUT I KNOW THE HULK-- HE WON'T HARM YOUR BOY FRIEND WITHOUT
CAUSE, NO MATTER WHAT PEOPLE SAY ABOUT HIM!
I'LL FIND HIM AND PROVE IT!

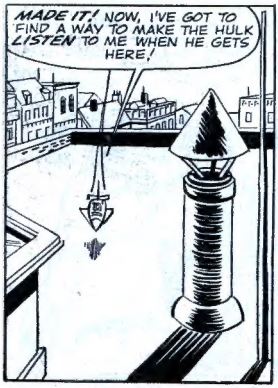
MEANTIME, THE HUMAN TOP SPINS JUST OUTSIDE THE TOWN--WAITING FOR THE HULK TO APPEAR!
HE'S GOT TO COME THIS WAY SOON--AND WHEN HE DOES--!
I'LL STOP HIM AND MAKE HIM AN OFFER! WITH HIS STRENGTH AND MY BRAINS, WE'LL BOTH FINISH OFF GIANT-MAN EASY!
AND, IF THE HULK REFUSES ME, I'LL HURL MY SPEED BLAST AT HIM! IF IT CAN SHATTER A BOULDER, IT OUGHT TO BE ABLE TO TAKE CARE OF ANYONE THAT LIVES!
BUT, EVEN THE HUMAN TOP DOESN'T SUSPECT HOW FAST THE HULK CAN LEAP! AND, THE RAMPAGING CREATURE APPEARS BEFORE THE TOP HAS TIME TO EVEN STOP HIS SPIN!
I'VE GOT TO FIND GIANT-MAN!! I'LL FINISH HIM FOREVER!
NOTHING WILL STAND IN MY WAY!! NOTHING! NOTHING!!
IT'S HIM!! BUT--HE'S CRASHING INTO THAT PEAK! HE'S TOPPLING IT! I NEVER DREAMT HIS STRENGTH WAS SO GREAT!
ONLY BY SPINNING AT MAXIMUM SPEED CAN THE TOP CREATE A WIND SCREEN DENSE ENOUGH TO PROTECT HIM FROM THE FALLING BOULDERS!
AND, BY THE TIME THE HULK HAS GONE...
I MISSED MY CHANCE! BUT I'LL CATCH UP WITH HIM YET!
THEN, THE VERY MAN THE HULK IS SEEKING SEES HIM FIRST!
THERE HE GOES!

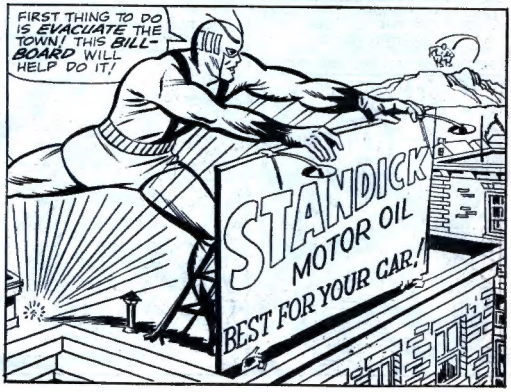
I'VE BEEN CARRYING THIS TINY CARBON-DIOXIDE POWER ROCKET FOR JUST SUCH AN OCCASION!

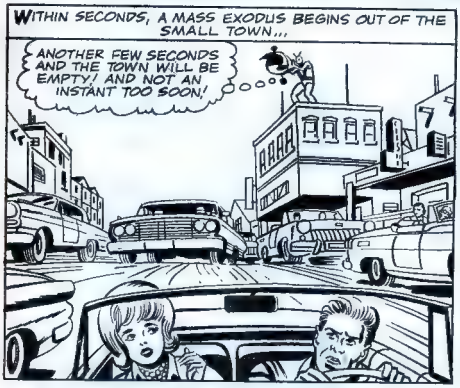

BY TRANSFORMING MYSELF TO ANT-MAN, I'LL BE ABLE TO RIDE IN IT--AND DESPITE ITS SIZE, IT HAS SUPER-SONIC SPEED!
IT'S GOOD FOR ONLY ONE BRIEF USE BEFORE ITS POWER IS GONE, BUT THAT'LL BE ENOUGH FOR ME!

THE HULK IS HEADING FOR THE NEXT TOWN! I'VE GOT TO REACH THERE BEFORE HE DOES!

SOONER OR LATER I'LL FIND GIANT-MAN! HE'S TOO BIG TO HIDE FROM ME MUCH LONGER! I'LL SEARCH EVERY TOWN TILL I'VE GOT HIM!
MY MINIATURE MISSILE IS SO SWIFT, AND SILENT, THAT HE DOESN'T EVEN NOTICE IT ROCKETING PAST HIM!


MADE IT! NOW, I'VE GOT TO FIND A WAY TO MAKE THE HULK LISTEN TO ME WHEN HE GETS HERE!


FIRST THING TO DO IS EVACUATE THE TOWN! THIS BILL-BOARD WILL HELP DO IT!
STANDICK
MOTOR OIL
BEST FOR YOUR CAR!



CONTINUED ON PAGE 32.

TERRIFIC NEWS!

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:— *TERRIFIC* 64, LONG ACRE LONDON, W.C.2

Dear Alf and Bart,
In reply to Peter Dixom's letter about Doc Strange in Terrific 29 you said that the sun is the centre of the Solar System because the planets go round it in circles. Well I've got news for you: Because, as any self-respecting star gazer will tell you, the planets go round the sun in ELLIPTICAL (or oval) orbits, and the sun is over to one end of the ellipse at one of the two foci, just as Kepler discovered ages ago. Hurry and tell Doctor Strange before Kepler's ghost comes and blinds him with science ! !
T. J. Reynolds,
Rugby,
Warwickshire.

You've got us going round in ovals like heavenly bodies T.J., as we pat each other on the back congratulating ourselves on having such an astronomically clued up readership.
Alf and Bart.

Dear Alf and Bart,
Please, please let's have more of turnip bonce (Human Top) I think he would be great in the Avengers or put him and Quick Silver together. Why? why? did you put such a small pin-up of Sub Mariner? you have filled the pin-up with things in his cave. Let's have another pin-up but with less details.
Barry Smith,
Cheltenham,
Glos.

Looks like the Top spins his last in this very ish, B.S., but at least he goes out with a bang ! !
Alf and Bart.

Dear Alf and Bart,
I would like to congratulate you on the superb drawing which is done each week on the Doctor Strange stories. The way you show the spells and the different worlds is marvellous. Congratulation to the artist (whoever this genius is). Now, could you tell me how old Bucky was when he died? I am a great fan of Captain America and I think it is mainly because of him that the new Avengers are such a success. I think the Avengers T-shirt looks very good and I would like one very much (hint, hint) !
J. A. McCaw,
Newport,
Mon.

We just couldn't agree more about the mystical inking of WILD BILL EVERETT—the Doc Strange maestro of the moment, J.A.M. It's really way out ! Nobody up here seems to know the exact age of the unlucky Bucky and the general opinion is that it was never revealed by the comic book writers of the faraway forties.
Alf and Bart.

Be your own Santa Claus — win an Avenger T-shirt ! !

FREE! STAMP COLLECTOR'S OUTFIT INCLUDING:

- ★ *Stamp Identifier*
- ★ *Surprise Packet of Foreign stamps*
- ★ *Stamp album*
- ★ *Transparent Envelopes*
- ★ *Prize set of 9 Hungarian stamps*
- ★ *Magnifying Glass*

Just fill in the Coupon below and enclose 6d. for postage. Our Famous discount pictorial Approvals will accompany each free outfit.

Please tell your parents you are writing.

Please send free gift and Approvals as advertised to:
NAME .....
ADDRESS.....
.....

THE BRIDGNORTH STAMP CO. LTD. (Dept. P.129), BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE

159 DIFFERENT STAMPS FREE!

Just fill in the coupon below and we will send you this large packet containing many pictorials, including the new *MONACO RACING CAR* stamp illustrated, FREE OF CHARGE, together with a selection of Approvals.

Please enclose 4d. postage.

Tell your parents you are writing.

Please send free gift and Approvals as advertised to:
NAME .....
ADDRESS.....
.....
.....

JET STAMPS (Dept. A49), MUCH WENLOCK, SALOP.

JOHN WAYNE · KIRK DOUGLAS

WHEN THESE TWO MEN RODE— THE LEGEND OF THE WEST WAS BORN!

UNIVERSAL PICTURES

The WAR WAGON U

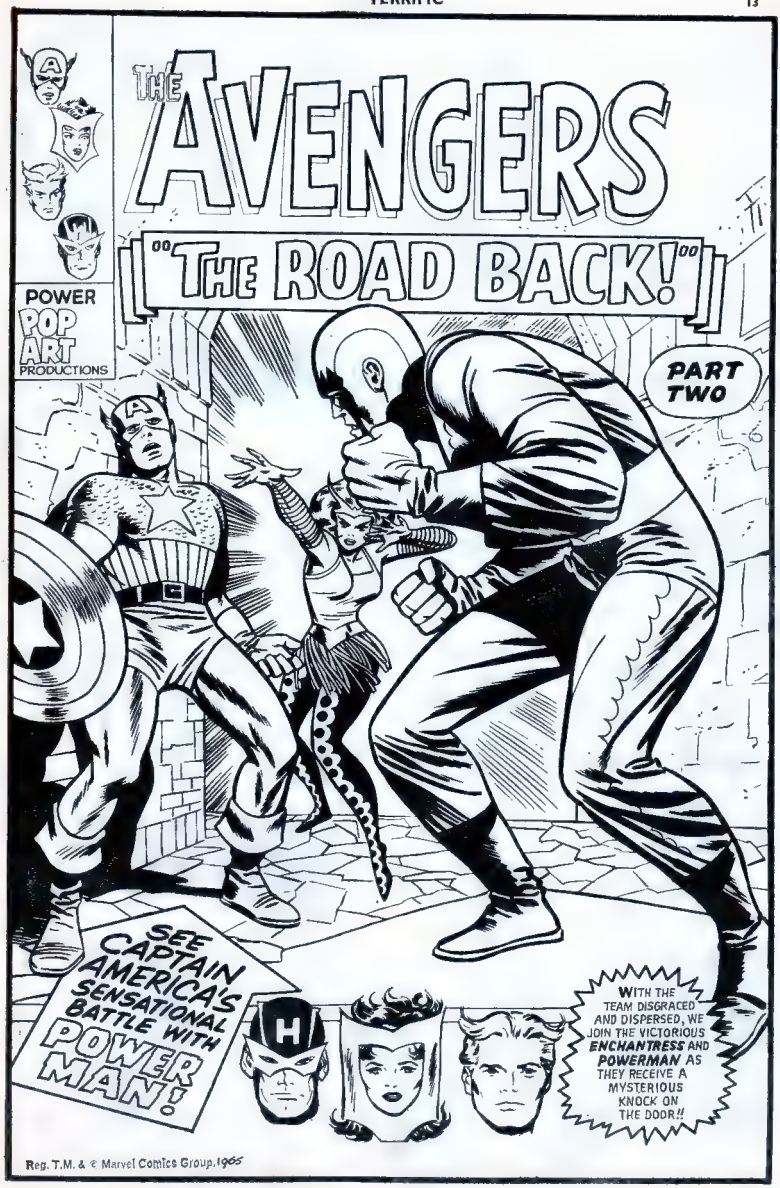
TECHNICOLOR® PANAVISION®

HOWARD KEEL

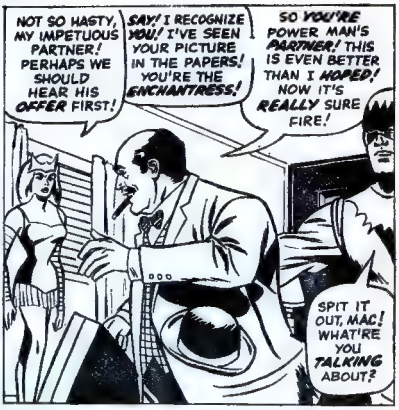
ROBERT WALKER · KEENAN WYNN · BRUCE CABOT · JOANNA BARNES

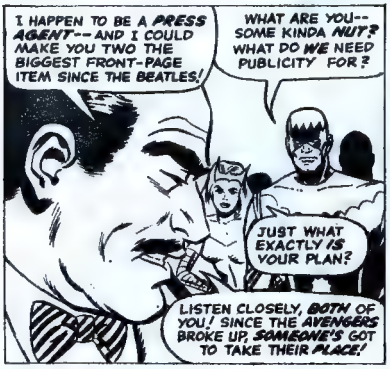
Music composed and conducted by DIMITRI TIOMKIN Screenplay by CLAIR HUFFAKER Based on his book "BADMAN"
Directed by BURT KENNEDY Produced by MARVIN SCHWARTZ A Batjac Presentation | A MARVIN SCHWARTZ Production
A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

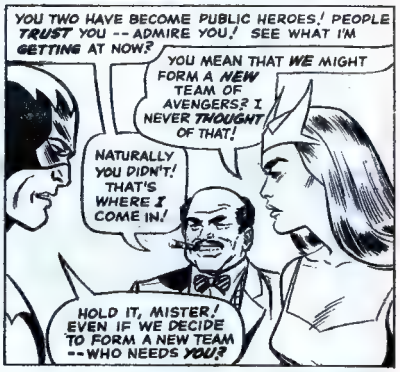
NORTH LONDON & GENERAL RELEASE — DECEMBER 31st
SOUTH LONDON — JANUARY 7th


THE AVENGERS
"THE ROAD BACK!"
POWER POP ART PRODUCTIONS
PART TWO
SEE CAPTAIN AMERICA'S SENSATIONAL BATTLE WITH POWER MAN!
WITH THE TEAM DISGRACED AND DISPERSED, WE JOIN THE VICTORIOUS ENCHANTRESS AND POWERMAN AS THEY RECEIVE A MYSTERIOUS KNOCK ON THE DOOR!!
Reg. T.M. & © Marvel Comics Group. 1965

AH, POWER MAN! JUST WHO I'M LOOKING FOR!
I'VE COME TO MAKE YOU RICH AND FAMOUS!
LOOK, FATSO -- WHATEVER YOU'RE SELLIN', I DON'T WANT ANY. NOW GET LOST!

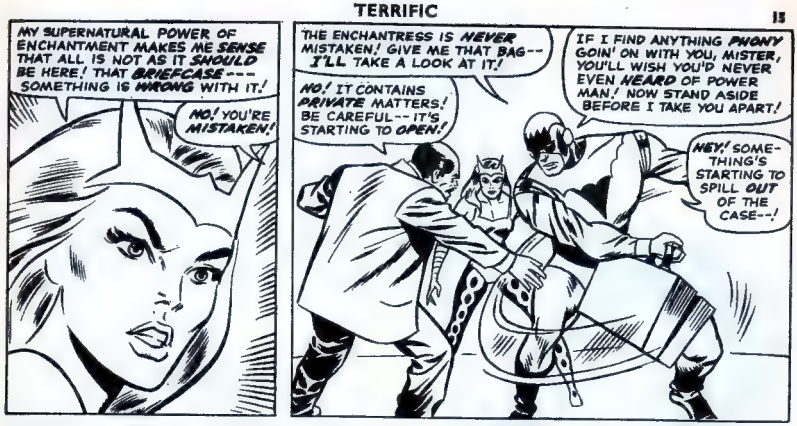

NOT SO HASTY, MY IMPETUOUS PARTNER! PERHAPS WE SHOULD HEAR HIS OFFER FIRST!
SAY! I RECOGNIZE YOU! I'VE SEEN YOUR PICTURE IN THE PAPERS! YOU'RE THE ENCHANTRESS!
SO YOU'RE POWER MAN'S PARTNER! THIS IS EVEN BETTER THAN I HOPED! NOW IT'S REALLY SURE FIRE!
SPIT IT OUT, MAC! WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT?


I HAPPEN TO BE A PRESS AGENT -- AND I COULD MAKE YOU TWO THE BIGGEST FRONT-PAGE ITEM SINCE THE BEATLES!
WHAT ARE YOU -- SOME KINDA NUT? WHAT DO WE NEED PUBLICITY FOR?
JUST WHAT EXACTLY IS YOUR PLAN?
LISTEN CLOSELY, BOTH OF YOU! SINCE THE AVENGERS BROKE UP, SOMEONE'S GOT TO TAKE THEIR PLACE!


YOU TWO HAVE BECOME PUBLIC HEROES! PEOPLE TRUST YOU -- ADMIRE YOU! SEE WHAT I'M GETTING AT NOW?
YOU MEAN THAT WE MIGHT FORM A NEW TEAM OF AVENGERS? I NEVER THOUGHT OF THAT!
NATURALLY YOU DIDN'T! THAT'S WHERE I COME IN!
HOLD IT, MISTER! EVEN IF WE DECIDE TO FORM A NEW TEAM -- WHO NEEDS YOU?

YOU DO! YOU SEE, I WILL DO THE THINKING FOR YOU! AFTER ALL, ALTHOUGH IT ISN'T GENERALLY KNOWN, I AM THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE AVENGERS' DOWNFALL!
IN A PIG'S EYE YOU ARE!
POWER MAN! CAREFUL! DON'T LOSE YOUR TEMPER!

NOW LISTEN, BIG MOUTH -- IT WAS THE ENCHANTRESS AND ME THAT FRAMED THE AVENGERS! WE SENT 'EM ON WILD GOOSE CHASES TO MAKE THE PUBLIC THINK THEY WERE CRACKING UP!
IS THAT SO? I'D NEVER HAVE SUSPECTED!
YOU VAIN FOOL!! YOU'RE TALKING TOO MUCH!


MY SUPERNATURAL POWER OF ENCHANTMENT MAKES ME SENSE THAT ALL IS NOT AS IT SHOULD BE HERE! THAT BRIEFCASE--- SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH IT!
NO! YOU'RE MISTAKEN!
THE ENCHANTRESS IS NEVER MISTAKEN! GIVE ME THAT BAG-- I'LL TAKE A LOOK AT IT!
NO! IT CONTAINS PRIVATE MATTERS! BE CAREFUL-- IT'S STARTING TO OPEN!
IF I FIND ANYTHING PHONY GOIN' ON WITH YOU, MISTER, YOU'LL WISH YOU'D NEVER EVEN HEARD OF POWER MAN! NOW STAND ASIDE BEFORE I TAKE YOU APART!
HEY! SOMETHING'S STARTING TO SPILL OUT OF THE CASE--!

A ROLL OF TAPE! YOU WERE RECORDIN' EVERYTHING WE SAID!
RIGHT! AND I GOT WHAT I WANTED!
THAT TAPE WILL PROVE TO THE POLICE THAT THE AVENGERS ARE INNOCENT!
LOOK! HE WAS IN DISGUISE!
IT'S CAPTAIN AMERICA!
AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT, MUSCLEBOUND!

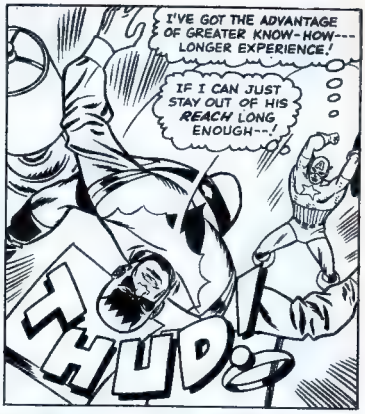
POWER MAN! IF THE POLICE GET THAT TAPE, ALL OUR WORK WILL BE UNDONE!
DON'T WORRY, BABY--- THEY'LL NEVER GET IT!
OH YES THEY WILL!! I'M STAKING MY LIFE ON IT!
HE SCOOPED IT UP WITH HIS SPINNING SHIELD! GET HIM!
I WAS HOPING YOU WOULDN'T GIVE UP WITHOUT A FIGHT! I'VE GOT A LITTLE DEBT TO REPAY TO POWER MAN!
KNOCK IT OFF, YOU PHONY! I BEAT YOU LAST TIME, AND I'LL DO IT AGAIN!
PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS, SMART GUY! I'M READY FOR YOU NOW!

THOSE'LL BE THE LAST WORDS YOU'LL EVER--UNHHHH!!
DON'T THREATEN ME, BIG MAN! I'VE BEEN THREATENED BY EXPERTS!
BWANNG!
I STAGGERED HIM BY MOVING SO UNEXPECTEDLY --BUT HE ISN'T HURT! HE'S A LIVING POWERHOUSE!

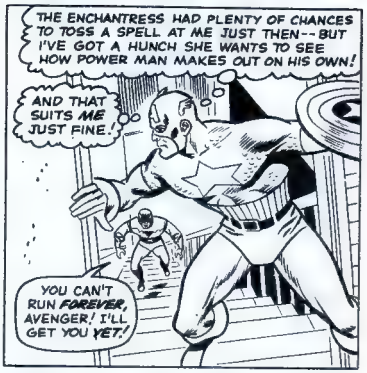
DID YOU THINK ONE PUNY BLOW COULD STOP SOMEONE AS STRONG AS POWER MAN?!
I DON'T CARE HOW MANY IT TAKES!! I'LL STOP YOU YET!

I'LL ADMIT STRENGTH IS A GREAT ASSET --BUT A LITTLE SKILL STILL GOES A LONG, LONG WAY!
THACK!
WHUGGGGHH--!

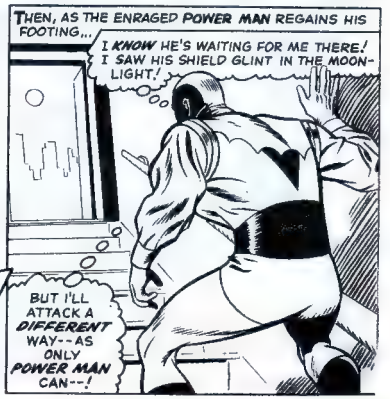
THE ENCHANTRESS IS TRYING TO GET INTO THE ACT! I'VE GOT TO KEEP POWER MAN BETWEEN US!
MY STRENGTH IS NO MATCH FOR HIS, BUT--


I'VE GOT THE ADVANTAGE OF GREATER KNOW-HOW--- LONGER EXPERIENCE!
IF I CAN JUST STAY OUT OF HIS REACH LONG ENOUGH--!
THUD!

MY BEST BET IS TO CONSTANTLY DO THE UNEXPECTED --TO KEEP THEM OFF BALANCE!
THEY'LL EXPECT ME TO FOLLOW UP MY LEAD BY KEEPING AFTER POWER MAN...
--BUT, I'LL MAKE A BREAK FOR IT NOW, INSTEAD!
WHAM!


THE ENCHANTRESS HAD PLENTY OF CHANCES TO TOSS A SPELL AT ME JUST THEN--BUT I'VE GOT A HUNCH SHE WANTS TO SEE HOW POWER MAN MAKES OUT ON HIS OWN!
AND THAT SUITS ME JUST FINE!
YOU CAN'T RUN FOREVER, AVENGER! I'LL GET YOU YET!

NOT THAT WAY YOU WON'T!
WHISSSSK!


THEN, AS THE ENRAGED POWER MAN REGAINS HIS FOOTING...
I KNOW HE'S WAITING FOR ME THERE! I SAW HIS SHIELD GLINT IN THE MOON-LIGHT!
BUT I'LL ATTACK A DIFFERENT WAY--AS ONLY POWER MAN CAN--!

KRRAKKK
HE'LL NEVER EXPECT ME TO CRASH RIGHT THROUGH A BRICK WALL!

NICE TRY, BUT I HEARD YOU COMING FIFTY FEET AWAY!!
BLANNG!
IT'S NO USE! NOTHING I DO CAN HURT HIM!!

NOW I KNOW WHO YOUR POWER REMINDS ME OF-- IT'S WONDER MAN! HE TOO WAS ALLIED WITH THE ENCHANTRESS!
I SHOULD HAVE PUT TWO AND TOGETHER BEFORE THIS! SHE'S FOUND A WAY TO DUPLICATE WONDER MAN'S POWERS IN YOU!
A FAT LOTTA GOOD THAT KNOWLEDGE IS GONNA DO YOU!

DON'T KNOCK KNOWLEDGE, FELLA! EVERY LITTLE BIT HELPS!
PAY ATTENTION WHEN I'M TALKING TO YOU!
ZZZZZZZZZZ
WHAM

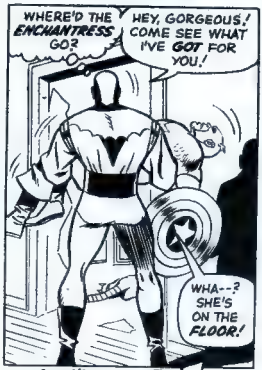
STILL THINK THE AVENGERS ARE EASY GAME, POWER MAN?
AND REMEMBER -- YOU'RE FIGHTING THE WEAKEST ONE! MY PARTNERS ARE ALL YOUNGER--AND HAVE GREATER POWERS!
THOK!
ONCE I GAIN MY FEET, I'LL DESTROY YOU! YOU CAN'T HOLD ME OFF FOREVER, AND YOU KNOW IT!

THERE! NOW IT'S MY TURN!
AND THAT MEANS THE END?

YOU PUT UP A PRETTY GOOD FIGHT-- FOR A NOBODY!
BUT YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TALK YOURSELF OUTTA THIS!

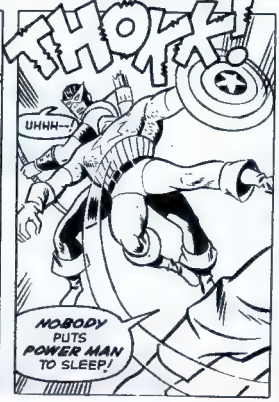
WHAM

AND THAT'S THAT!
IT'S LUCKY THAT SHIELD-CARRYING SQUARE DOESN'T HAVE ANY SUPER STRENGTH! IF HE DID, NOBODY COULD BEAT HIM!


WHERE'D THE ENCHANTRESS GO?
HEY, GORGEOUS! COME SEE WHAT I'VE GOT FOR YOU!
WHA--? SHE'S ON THE FLOOR!

ENCHANTRESS!!! WHAT HAPPENED?? GET UP! SAY SOMETHING!!

SHE CAN'T, TOUGH GUY! WE PUT HER TO SLEEP FOR A WHILE!
AND I'VE GOT ANOTHER SLEEPY-TIME ARROW RIGHT HERE FOR YOU!
HAWKEYE!!!


THOK!
UHHH--
NOBODY PUTS POWER MAN TO SLEEP!

THEN JUST CALL US NOBODY!
QUICKSILVER!
CPOOM!
YOU WEAK-KNEED WEAKLING, I'LL-- BLAST IT! HE'S TOO FAST!

KRAK!
HITTING HIM WITH THIS LAMP AT TOP SPEED OUGHT TO--
NO! HE DIDN'T EVEN SEEM TO FEEL IT!

MOVING FAR TOO FAST FOR A SUDDEN STOP, AND CAUGHT OFF BALANCE BY THE SHOCK OF POWER MAN'S GREAT STRENGTH, QUICKSILVER LOSES HIS FOOTING, AND...
HAH! THAT'S ALL YOUR SUPER-SPEED IS GOOD FOR--MAKING A FOOL OF YOURSELF!
THUMP!

YOU TALK TOO MUCH, BIG MAN!
BLAT
WHAT'S HE MADE OF?? MY ARROW JUST BOUNCED OFF HIM!

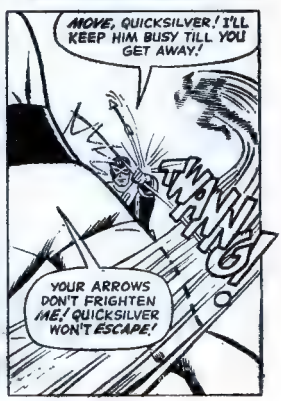
I DON'T EVEN HAVE TO TOUCH YOU TO BEAT YOU!
NOT WHEN I CAN JUST RIP UP THE FLOOR BENEATH YOUR FEET!
SKRRAK

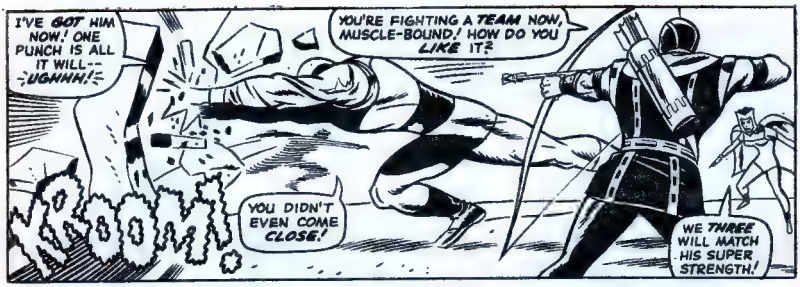
AND DON'T POINT YOUR FINGER AT ME, SISTER! NO FEMALE'S HEX CAN STOP POWER MAN!
I AM NOT YOUR "SISTER"--AND MY HEX CAN STOP ANYTHING--

--INCLUDING A BIG, SWELL-HEADED, CONCEITED BOOR LIKE YOU!
-MMMPFFF!- WHERE'D THIS BLASTED DRAPE DROP DOWN FROM??!

GOOD WORK, WANDA!
NOW, I'LL JUST GRAB ONE END AND SPIN HIM AROUND LIKE A TOP!
YOU DIDN'T THINK ONE FALL WOULD STOP ME?

NO, BUT THIS NEXT ONE WILL!
-UHHH!- AGAIN I UNDERESTIMATED HIS STRENGTH! I COULDN'T EVEN BUDGE HIM!


MOVE, QUICKSILVER! I'LL KEEP HIM BUSY TILL YOU GET AWAY!
TWANG!
YOUR ARROWS DON'T FRIGHTEN ME! QUICKSILVER WON'T ESCAPE!


I'VE GOT HIM NOW! ONE PUNCH IS ALL IT WILL-- -UGHHH!
YOU'RE FIGHTING A TEAM NOW, MUSCLE-BOUND! HOW DO YOU LIKE IT?
KOOM!
YOU DIDN'T EVEN COME CLOSE!
WE THREE WILL MATCH HIS SUPER STRENGTH!

CORRECTION! WE FOUR WILL MATCH HIM!
BLANG!
YOU!!!

YOU'RE THROUGH, POWER MAN! THAT TAPE IS ALREADY ON ITS WAY TO THE POLICE! YOUR PLOT HAS FAILED-- AND THE AVENGERS ARE DIVIDED NO LONGER!

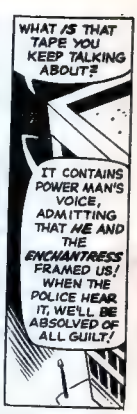
I FEAR I BACKED THE WRONG MAN! I THOUGHT YOU WOULD BE DIFFERENT --BUT YOU LACKED THE TRUE KILLER INSTINCT!
WAIT! WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
I MEAN-- FAREWELL!

UNLIKE YOU MORTALS, I HAVE MY OWN WAY OF DEPARTING...!
NO! YOU CAN'T! DON'T LEAVE ME--!
I DID IT ALL FOR YOU! YOU WERE ALL THAT MATTERED--!
SHE'S STARTING TO FADE AWAY!

I'LL MAKE IT UP TO YOU! WAIT! WHAT GOOD IS MY POWER--WITHOUT YOU--??

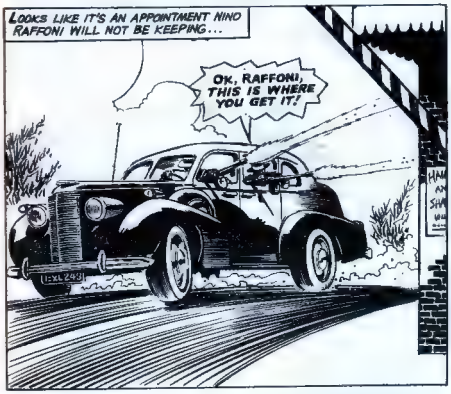
PERHAPS IT IS BEST THIS WAY! NO MAN MAY LOVE-- AN IMMORTAL...!
SHE'S GONE!

QUICKLY! THIS IS OUR CHANCE...!
RELAX, LADY! THE FIGHT'S OVER! WITHOUT--HER-- WHAT HAVE I GOT-- TO FIGHT FOR??
HE MEANS IT! POWER MAN WILL TROUBLE US NO LONGER!



DOES CAP REALLY MEAN IT? IS THIS ANOTHER CRUCIAL SPLIT-UP FOR THE MIGHTY AVENGERS? DO WE HAVE ALL KINDS OF DAZZLING SURPRISES WAITING FOR YOU NEXT ISH? WHY NOT TUNE IN AND SEE FOR YOURSELVES? THIS MUCH WE CAN TELL YOU -- IF IT ISN'T THE ZINGIEST ENTERTAINMENT OF THE DECADE WE'LL GIVE UP AND GO OVER TO BRAND X!!

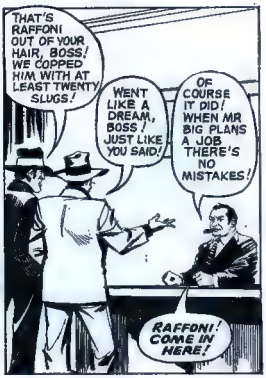
DON STARR HAS AN...
APPOINTMENT WITH MR. BIG
THE TIME; 1967. THE PLACE: PIOZINA, ITALY. THE CAST: SECURITY AGENT DON STARR ASSISTED BY THOUSANDS! THE CURTAIN RISES...
HOW YOU LIKA YOUR HAIRCUT, MR RAFFONI?
THE USUAL, TONY— BUT MAKE IT QUICK! I'VE GOT AN APPOINTMENT WITH MR BIG IN HALF AN HOUR!

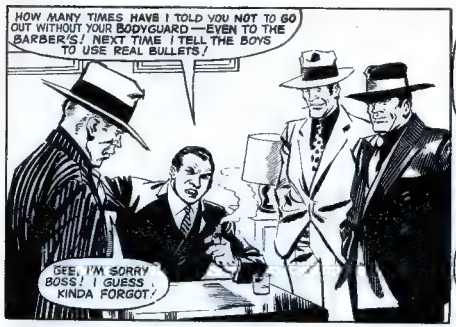

LOOKS LIKE IT'S AN APPOINTMENT NINO RAFFONI WILL NOT BE KEEPING...
OK, RAFFONI, THIS IS WHERE YOU GET IT!
EXL 249

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS TO ALL RATS WHO DOUBLE-CROSS MR BIG!
EXL 249

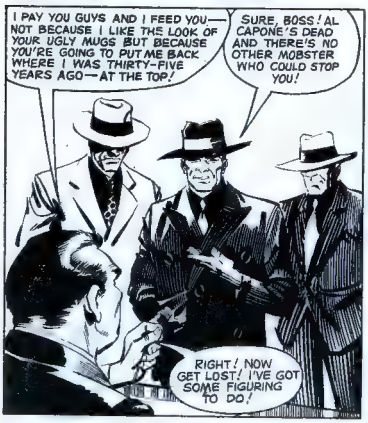
NOW I NEVER GET TO CUT TA HIS HAIR!

THE BOSS WILL BE PLEASED WITH US, BUGSY! RAFFONI NEVER KNEW WHAT HIT HIM!
DID YOU SEE THE WAY THAT BOMB LANDED RIGHT IN THE SHOP DOORWAY, FINGERS? YOU WAIT TILL MR BIG HEARS ABOUT THE WAY WE HANDLED IT!


THAT'S RAFFONI OUT OF YOUR HAIR, BOSS! WE COPPED HIM WITH AT LEAST TWENTY SLUGS!
WENT LIKE A DREAM, BOSS! JUST LIKE YOU SAID!
OF COURSE IT DID! WHEN MR BIG PLANS A JOB THERE'S NO MISTAKES!
RAFFONI! COME IN HERE!


HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU NOT TO GO OUT WITHOUT YOUR BODYGUARD—EVEN TO THE BARBER'S! NEXT TIME I TELL THE BOYS TO USE REAL BULLETS!
GEE, I'M SORRY BOSS! I GUESS I KINDA FORGOT!

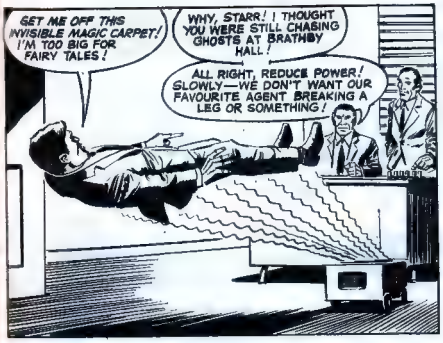
IN THIS BUSINESS NO ONE FORGETS! IF THEY DO — WE BURY THEM! AND DEAD MEN ARE NO USE TO ME IF WE'RE GOING TO RUN THIS CITY!
ONE MORE MISTAKE, RAFFONI, AND YOU WIND UP AT THE BOTTOM OF THE RIVER WITH A CEMENT OVER-COAT!


I PAY YOU GUYS AND I FEED YOU—NOT BECAUSE I LIKE THE LOOK OF YOUR UGLY MUGS BUT BECAUSE YOU'RE GOING TO PUT ME BACK WHERE I WAS THIRTY-FIVE YEARS AGO—AT THE TOP!
SURE, BOSS! AL CAPONE'S DEAD AND THERE'S NO OTHER MOBSTER WHO COULD STOP YOU!
RIGHT! NOW GET LOST! I'VE GOT SOME FIGURING TO DO!

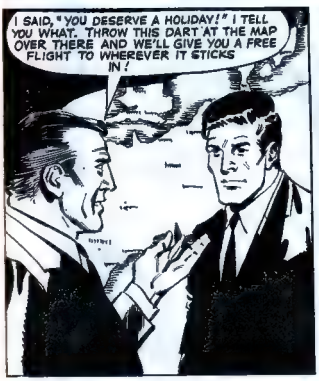
IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERING WHEN DON STARR IS GOING TO MAKE AN APPEARANCE IN THIS STORY YOU CAN STOP WONDERING RIGHT NOW...
IF THAT TIGHT-FISTED, HARD-HEARTED BOSS OF MINE THINKS HE'S GOING TO DELAY MY HOLIDAY ONE MOMENT LONGER HE'S IN FOR A SURPRISE!
IT'S STARR! JUST THE MAN TO TRY THE NEW TRANSPORTER-RAY ON! OUR AGENTS SHOULD ALWAYS EXPERIENCE NEW GADGETS AT FIRST HAND! SWITCH ON!

...HE CAN HAVE MY RESIGNATION SO FAST HE'LL.... OOOEERRR!

I'M FLOATING! GET ME DOWN!
PINCH ME, SOMEONE, I MUST BE DREAMING!
I ALWAYS SAID DON STARR WAS AN ANGEL—BUT I NEVER THOUGHT HE COULD FLY! ANY ROOM FOR ME ON THAT CLOUD, DON?


GET ME OFF THIS INVISIBLE MAGIC CARPET! I'M TOO BIG FOR FAIRY TALES!
WHY, STARR! I THOUGHT YOU WERE STILL CHASING GHOSTS AT BRATHBY HALL!
ALL RIGHT, REDUCE POWER! SLOWLY—WE DON'T WANT OUR FAVOURITE AGENT BREAKING A LEG OR SOMETHING!

NOW JUST YOU LISTEN TO ME! I'M TIRED OF BEING PUNCHED, KICKED, BLACK-JACKED, SHOT AT...
—YOU NEED A HOLIDAY!
ELECTROCUTED, SCARED HALF TO DEATH... WHAT DID YOU SAY?


I SAID, "YOU DESERVE A HOLIDAY!" I TELL YOU WHAT. THROW THIS DART AT THE MAP OVER THERE AND WE'LL GIVE YOU A FREE FLIGHT TO WHEREVER IT STICKS IN!

YOU'VE BEEN WORKING TOO HARD, STARR! THE BREAK WILL DO YOU GOOD! COME ON, THROW THE DART!
THERE'S GOT TO BE A CATCH IN IT SOMEWHERE! BUT I DON'T SEE HOW! AFTER ALL, I'M THROWING THE DART!

I'M A MAN OF MY WORD STARR! THAT DART SHOWS THAT YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TWO WEEKS OF PEACE AND RELAXATION IN PIOZINA, ITALY. CHARMING PLACE, I BELIEVE!
PIOZINA
NAPLES

HALF AN HOUR LATER...
THERE YOU ARE, STARR, PASSPORT, AIRPLANE TICKET, HOTEL RESERVATION, AND SOME ITALIAN CURRENCY! NOW OFF YOU GO AND ENJOY YOURSELF!
IF I WAS SPIDER-MAN MY SPIDER SENSES WOULD BE TINGLING. THIS IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! OR PERHAPS THEY REALLY DO VALUE ME!
I WANT YOU TO KNOW I APPRECIATE THIS, CHIEF! AND I MUST ADMIT I MISJUDGED YOU!

WHEN STARR HAS LEFT THE ROOM...
I HAVEN'T USED THE MAGNET-BEHIND-THE-MAP-TRICK FOR MONTHS! I'M SURPRISED STARR FELL FOR IT! ANY DART MUST STICK IN THE MAP WHEREVER I HOLD THE MAGNET!

BUT WHY DID YOU WANT TO SEND HIM TO PIOZINA, CHIEF?
OUR AGENT IN THAT AREA SENT IN SOME GARBLED REPORT ABOUT AMERICAN GANGSTERS TAKING OVER THE PLACE. LOT OF RUBBISH, OF COURSE—MAN'S PROBABLY GOT A TOUCH OF THE SUN!
BUT IF THERE IS ANY TROUBLE OUT THERE—STARR'S THE MAN TO FIND IT!
LOOKS LIKE THIS IS GOING TO BE A BIG ONE!! BE HERE NEXT WEEK...

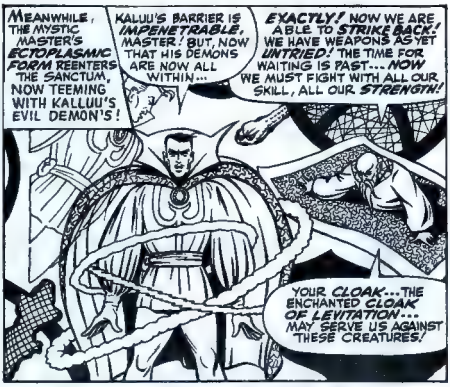
Dr. STRANGE, MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS!

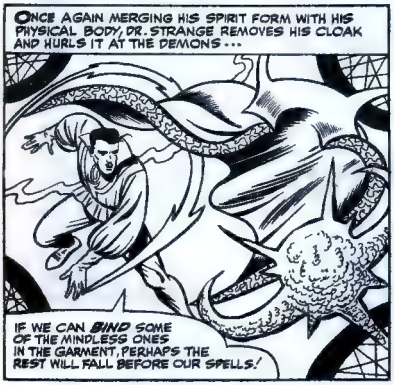
"IF KALUU SHOULD TRIUMPH"

Part Two

Reg. T.M. & © Marvel Comics Group.1965

BEFORE, I WAS INCLINED TOWARD MERCY FOR THE YOUNG OAF! I COULD FORGIVE HIM WEAKNESS, BUT NEVER THE FOLLY HE HAS JUST SHOWN!
I SHALL INCREASE THE INTENSITY OF THE DEMONS' ATTACK... INCREASE IT UNTIL MY ENEMIES ARE SO FEARFUL THAT THEY PLEAD FOR AN END TO IT!

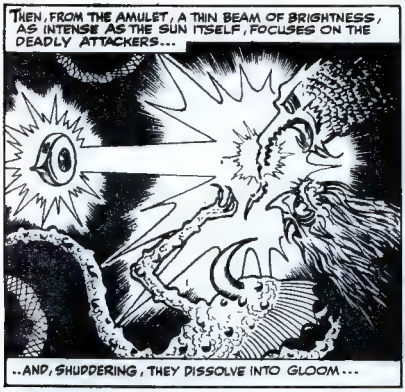

MEANWHILE, THE MYSTIC MASTER'S ECTOPLASMIC FORM REENTERS THE SANCTUM, NOW TEEMING WITH KALLUU'S EVIL DEMON'S!
KALUU'S BARRIER IS IMPENETRABLE, MASTER! BUT, NOW THAT HIS DEMONS ARE NOW ALL WITHIN...
EXACTLY! NOW WE ARE ABLE TO STRIKE BACK! WE HAVE WEAPONS AS YET UNTRIED! THE TIME FOR WAITING IS PAST... NOW WE MUST FIGHT WITH ALL OUR SKILL, ALL OUR STRENGTH!
YOUR CLOAK... THE ENCHANTED CLOAK OF LEVITATION... MAY SERVE US AGAINST THESE CREATURES!


ONCE AGAIN MERGING HIS SPIRIT FORM WITH HIS PHYSICAL BODY, DR. STRANGE REMOVES HIS CLOAK AND HURLS IT AT THE DEMONS...
IF WE CAN BIND SOME OF THE MINDLESS ONES IN THE GARMENT, PERHAPS THE REST WILL FALL BEFORE OUR SPELLS!

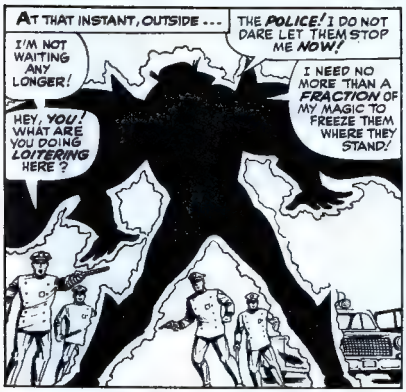
BUT, EVEN AS THE MAGIC CLOTH WRAPS ITSELF AROUND AND AROUND, THE FORMS SEEM TO MELT AWAY FROM ITS FOLDS!
THEIR BODIES ARE OF A SUBSTANCE SO ALIEN TO US THAT EARTH LANGUAGE HAS NO WORDS TO DESCRIBE IT! THEY CAN NOT BE CONTAINED!

OUR FAITH... OUR COURAGE MUST NOT FALTER, AH, I SEE YOU ALREADY MAKE USE OF YOUR AMULET! SO POWERFUL ARE ITS RAYS THAT THEY MAY HOLD OUR ATTACKERS AT BAY!

AYE, MASTER! MANY TIMES IN THE PAST HAVE I OWED MY LIFE TO THE SORCERER'S JEWEL!
LET THE AMULET OF AGAMOTTO BATHE THE CREATURES OF DARKNESS IN LIGHT! BY THE SHADES OF THE SERAPHIM DO I SO COMMAND!


THEN, FROM THE AMULET, A THIN BEAM OF BRIGHTNESS, AS INTENSE AS THE SUN ITSELF, FOCUSES ON THE DEADLY ATTACKERS...
..AND, SHUDDERING, THEY DISSOLVE INTO GLOOM...

LOOK, MASTER! THE AMULET SUCCEEDED! THE DEMONS WHO SURVIVED HOVER NEAR THE CEILING...IT IS AS THOUGH THEY ARE AFRAID TO FURTHER THEIR ATTACK!
BUT, BEHOLD! THE POWER OF THE AMULET IS DRAINED! IT IS OF NO FURTHER USE TO US!
WE HAVE NOT TRIUMPHED! WE HAVE BUT WON A MOMENTARY RESPITE!
BEFORE THE DEMONS RECOVER, WE MUST DEVISE A PLAN OF ESCAPE!

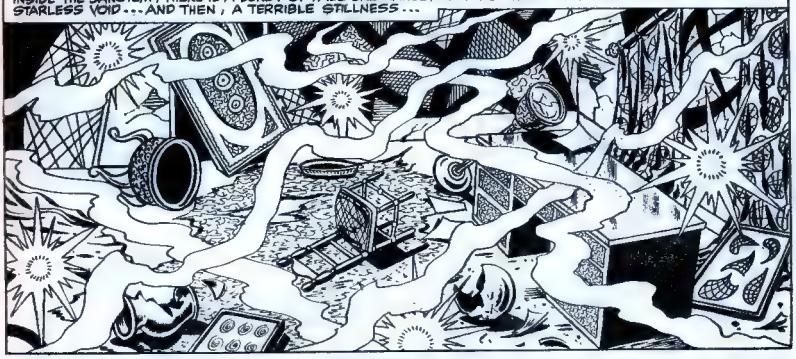

AT THAT INSTANT, OUTSIDE...
THE POLICE! I DO NOT DARE LET THEM STOP ME NOW!
I'M NOT WAITING ANY LONGER!
I NEED NO MORE THAN A FRACTION OF MY MAGIC TO FREEZE THEM WHERE THEY STAND!
HEY, YOU! WHAT ARE YOU DOING LOITERING HERE?

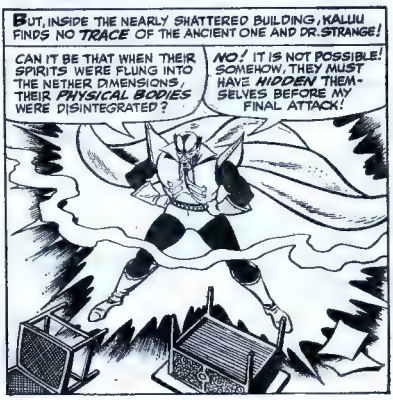
KNOW YOU THAT, KALUU, WILL NOT BE INTERFERED WITH!
HOLY TOLEDO...I CAN'T MOVE A MUSCLE!
ME NEITHER WHAT IN BLAZES HAS HAPPENED TO US?

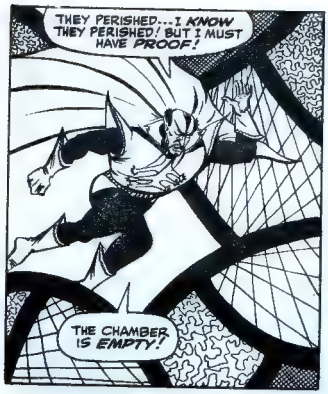
THE SPELL WILL LAST AN HOUR... LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO HAVE ACHIEVED MY ENDS AND THEN VANISH!
ONCE STRANGE IS DEFEATED, NO POWER ON EARTH CAN OPPOSE MY SPELLS!

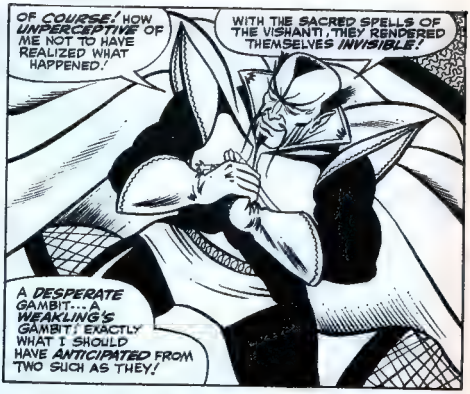
ENOUGH DISTRACTION! I MUST FINISH THE TASK I HAVE ORDAINED FOR MYSELF!
TELEPATHIC CONTACT WITH THE DEMONS OF DANAK HAS ALMOST CEASED! SOMEHOW, MY FOES MUST HAVE HALTED THEM!

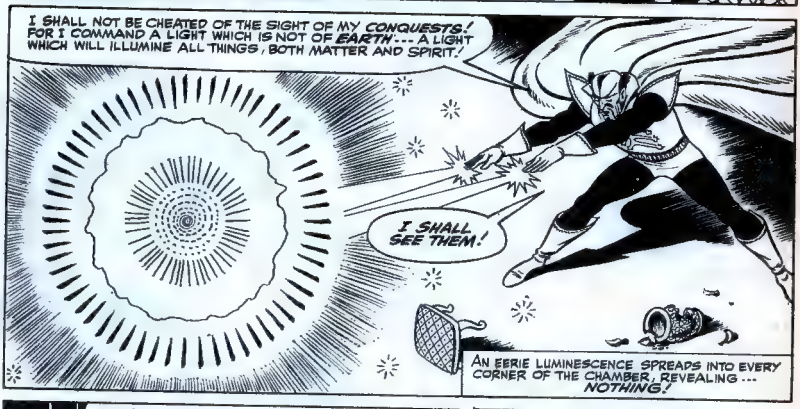
NEVER HAVE MORTAL EYES BEHELD THE AWESOME, DESTRUCTIVE FORCE POURING FROM THE CRAZED KALUU! INSIDE THE SANCTUM, THERE IS A BURST OF PALE BRILLIANCE, COLD AS THE MOST REMOTE STRETCHES OF THE STARLESS VOID---AND THEN, A TERRIBLE STILLNESS---



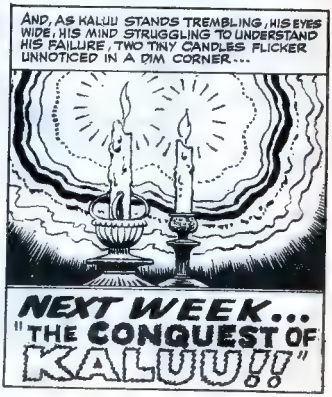



THEY PERISHED--- I KNOW THEY PERISHED! BUT I MUST HAVE PROOF!
THE CHAMBER IS EMPTY!


OF COURSE! HOW UNPERCEPTIVE OF ME NOT TO HAVE REALIZED WHAT HAPPENED!
WITH THE SACRED SPELLS OF THE VISHANTI, THEY RENDERED THEMSELVES INVISIBLE!
A DESPERATE GAMBIT--- A WEAKLING'S GAMBIT; EXACTLY WHAT I SHOULD HAVE ANTICIPATED FROM TWO SUCH AS THEY!


I SHALL NOT BE CHEATED OF THE SIGHT OF MY CONQUESTS! FOR I COMMAND A LIGHT WHICH IS NOT OF EARTH--- A LIGHT WHICH WILL ILLUMINE ALL THINGS, BOTH MATTER AND SPIRIT!
I SHALL SEE THEM!
AN EERIE LUMINESCENCE SPREADS INTO EVERY CORNER OF THE CHAMBER, REVEALING --- NOTHING!

NO! IT IS NOT POSSIBLE! THEY DID NOT ESCAPE! THEY MUST BE HERE! THEY MUST BE---


AND, AS KALUU STANDS TREMBLING, HIS EYES WIDE, HIS MIND STRUGGLING TO UNDERSTAND HIS FAILURE, TWO TINY CANDLES FLICKER UNNOTICED IN A DIM CORNER---
NEXT WEEK... "THE CONQUEST OF KALUU!!"

greetings from the floor of 64

64, LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2.

ON this most joyous festive season, what are the *right* things for us up here in the garret to say to you, the greatest gathering of loyal friends any editorial team ever had ? !

We CAN thank you for seeing things *our* way, for helping to make the style of comic fiction we believe in so widespread and ever-increasing in popularity. We can thank you for being true and faithful members of the Brotherhood of Power. For telling us, in your thousands of letters, that you like what we're doing . . . (and by buying our Power Pack to *prove* it ! !) But we think you already *know* how we feel about you all ! So you know we really *mean* it when we wish every one of you Powerhousers *the best Christmas you've ever had !*

This is a time for happiness and good cheer, for contentment and fun. And that's the way we want it to be with you ! Because you *deserve* it, tigers, you really do !

But 'nuff said from us. Now we'll leave it to *the best-loved bunch of characters in comic history* to say our signing-off message *for* us . . .

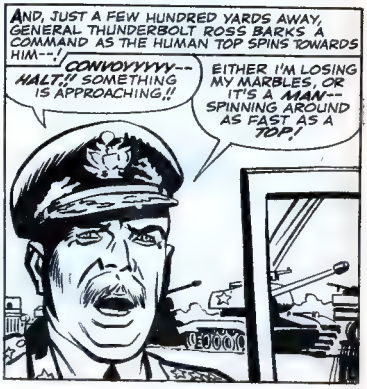
ENTER THE HULK
CONTINUED

BAH! NOTHING IS IMPORTANT TO THE HULK!!
HOLD IT, YOU BRAINLESS FOOL!! CAN'T YOU SEE-- I'M TRYING TO HELP YOU?!!

NOW TO TALK FAST, BEFORE HE ATTACKS ME AGAIN!
I KNOW YOU'RE LOOKING FOR GIANT-MAN! HE'S IN THE TOWN JUST AHEAD, WAITING TO AMBUSH YOU! YOU MUST STRIKE WITHOUT WARNING--DON'T GIVE HIM A CHANCE!

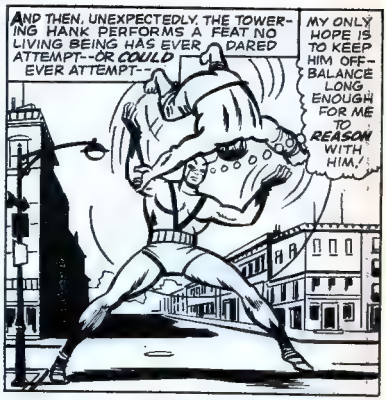
IT WORKED! HE FORGOT ABOUT ME-- HE TOOK OFF LIKE A MISSILE!! NOTHING CAN SAVE GIANT-MAN NOW!
NOBODY CAN AMBUSH THE HULK! I'LL MAKE THE AVENGERS WISH THEY HAD NEVER HEARD OF ME!

SO FAR, SO GOOD! BUT NOW I'LL MAKE SURE THAT THIS IS THE END OF GIANT-MAN! I SEE A MILITARY CONVOY HEADING THIS WAY!


AND, JUST A FEW HUNDRED YARDS AWAY, GENERAL THUNDERBOLT ROSS BARKS A COMMAND AS THE HUMAN TOP SPINS TOWARDS HIM--!
CONVOYYYYY-- HALT!! SOMETHING IS APPROACHING!!
EITHER I'M LOSING MY MARBLES, OR IT'S A MAN-- SPINNING AROUND AS FAST AS A TOP!

NEVER HAVING HEARD OF "THE HUMAN TOP", THE GENERAL WATCHES INCREDULOUSLY UNTIL...
I'VE COME TO WARN YOU! THE HULK IS IN THE TOWN AHEAD OF YOU!
THE HULK?? ARE YOU CERTAIN, MAN??
YES SIR! THE ENTIRE TOWN HAS BEEN EVACUATED! IT'S EMPTY--EXCEPT FOR THE HULK!
IF WHAT YOU SAY IS TRUE, THIS IS MY ONE CHANCE TO STOP THAT RAMPAGING MENACE FOR GOOD!
WITHIN SECONDS, THE BATTLE-WISE MILITARY LEADER SENDS OUT SCOUTS, AND WHEN THEY RETURN...
THE REPORT IS CORRECT, SIR! THE TOWN HAS BEEN EVACUATED! ALL THE INHABITANTS HAVE FLED TO SANDY POINT, IN THE NEXT DISTRICT!
BUT THIS IS THE CHANCE I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR--TO RID THE WORLD OF THE HULK!
EXACTLY TWO MINUTES LATER, THUNDERBOLT ROSS'S COMMAND CAR RACES TO THE LEAD TANK...
I HEARD FROM COMMAND HEADQUARTERS! THEY AUTHORIZE USING A NUCLEAR WARHEAD SHELL!
THAT MEANS PLAN B! TAKE YOUR STATIONS, MEN!
MEANWHILE, IN THE CENTRE OF TOWN, THE HULK AND GIANT-MAN FINALLY MEET FACE TO FACE!
THE HULK! AT LAST I'VE FOUND YOU!
WRONG, MISTER! I FOUND YOU--AND NOW I'M GONNA SHOW YOU WHAT I DO TO MY ENEMIES--NO MATTER HOW BIG THEY ARE!
WAIT!! DON'T BE A FOOL! I CAME HERE TO HELP YOU--TO OFFER YOU--
IT WON'T WORK! YOU CAN'T TRICK ME! YOU'RE MY ENEMY--ALL MEN ARE MY ENEMIES!!
THEN, WITHOUT WARNING, WITH THE FORCE OF A THUNDERBOLT, THE INCREDIBLE HULK STRIKES!
IT WON'T TAKE ME LONG TO CHOP YOU DOWN TO MY SIZE--SO I'LL BEGIN NOW!

BUT, GIANT-MAN NIMBLY PARRIES THE BLOW, DUCKING QUICKLY TO ONE SIDE...
WHEW! EVEN THOUGH HE ONLY GRAZED ME, IT FEELS LIKE I'VE BEEN HIT BY A BULL-DOZER! WHAT POWER HE HAS!!


AND THEN, UNEXPECTEDLY, THE TOWERING HANK PERFORMS A FEAT NO LIVING BEING HAS EVER DARED ATTEMPT--OR COULD EVER ATTEMPT--
MY ONLY HOPE IS TO KEEP HIM OFF-BALANCE LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO REASON WITH HIM!

AND THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS TO WIN HIS RESPECT--TO SHOW HIM HE'S UP AGAINST SOMEONE AS POWERFUL AS HE IS!

OKAY, HULK--NOW ARE YOU READY TO TALK SENSE??

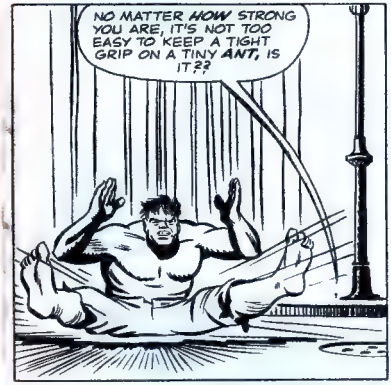
EVEN THOUGH I KNOW HOW STRONG HE IS, IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE HE CAN GET RIGHT UP AS THOUGH NOTHING HAS HAPPENED! HE JUST CAN'T BE HURT!
YOU THINK YOU CAN WEAR ME OUT? SLOW ME DOWN? YOU'RE A FOOL, GIANT-MAN!

YOU DON'T KNOW THE HULK! THE ANGRIER I GET, THE STRONGER I GET! AND I'VE NEVER BEEN ANGRIER!

SO! YOU SIDE-STEPPED MY BLOW! WELL, YOU CAN'T KEEP SIDE-STEPPING FOREVER!

AND THEN, BEFORE GIANT-MAN CAN MAKE ANOTHER MOVE, THE HULK MAKES ONE OF HIS LIGHTNING-FAST LEAPS--!
I'VE GOT YOU NOW!
NOTHING THAT LIVES CAN BREAK THE HULK'S GRIP!!

DON'T KID YOURSELF, HULK!
WHAT GOOD IS YOUR GRIP IF I SUDDENLY SHRINK DOWN TO THE SIZE OF AN ANT??


NO MATTER HOW STRONG YOU ARE, IT'S NOT TOO EASY TO KEEP A TIGHT GRIP ON A TINY ANT, IS IT??

AND THEN, IN THE VERY NEXT SECOND...
BUT HERE, I'LL MAKE EASIER FOR YOU-- I'LL BECOME GIANT-MAN AGAIN!

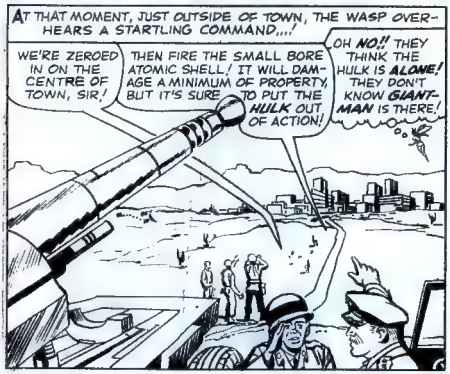
NOW WILL YOU STOP FIGHTING AND LISTEN TO REASON??
AND GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO TRICK ME?? NEVER! NO MATTER HOW YOU CHANGE YOUR SIZE, I'LL SMASH YOU YET!! MY STRENGTH HAS TO WIN IN THE END!

THEN, GRASPING THE LEDGE OF A NEARBY BUILDING, THE HULK BRINGS A SECTION OF THE WALL DOWN ON HIS HUGE ADVERSARY BEFORE GIANT-MAN CAN MAKE ANOTHER MOVE!
-UGH!- MY SHOULDER!!

WHERE IS YOUR CONFIDENCE NOW?? WHERE ARE YOUR BOASTS, YOUR SMART REMARKS? IN THE END, NOTHING CAN BEAT THE RAW POWER OF THE HULK!!

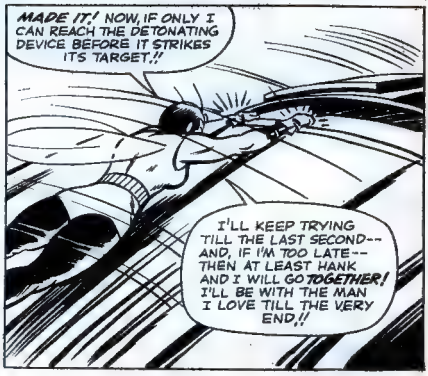
HE'S LEAPING AT ME! IF HE CONNECTS, I'M A GONER!

WITH PERFECT TIMING, THE TWELVE-FOOT TITAN ROLLS OUT OF HARM'S WAY AT THE LAST SECOND!!
CRASH!


AT THAT MOMENT, JUST OUTSIDE OF TOWN, THE WASP OVER-HEARS A STARTLING COMMAND....
WE'RE ZEROED IN ON THE CENTRE OF TOWN, SIR!
THEN FIRE THE SMALL BORE ATOMIC SHELL! IT WILL DAMAGE A MINIMUM OF PROPERTY, BUT IT'S SURE TO PUT THE HULK OUT OF ACTION!
OH NO!! THEY THINK THE HULK IS ALONE! THEY DON'T KNOW GIANT-MAN IS THERE!

NO TIME TO STOP THEM!! THEY'VE FIRED IT! IT'LL BE THE END OF HANK, UNLESS--

IT'S A CHANCE IN A MILLION-- BUT I'VE GOT TO TAKE IT!!

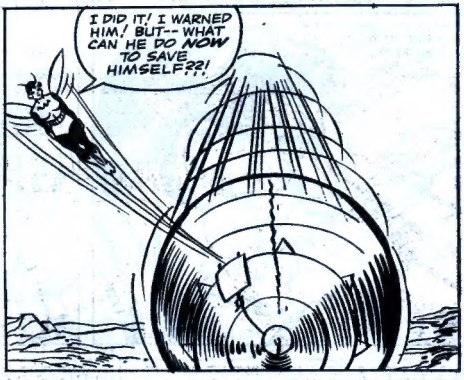

MADE IT! NOW, IF ONLY I CAN REACH THE DETONATING DEVICE BEFORE IT STRIKES ITS TARGET!!
I'LL KEEP TRYING TILL THE LAST SECOND-- AND, IF I'M TOO LATE-- THEN AT LEAST HANK AND I WILL GO TOGETHER! I'LL BE WITH THE MAN I LOVE TILL THE VERY END!!

IT'S HOPELESS! I CAN NEVER OPEN THIS LID BEFORE THE SHELL REACHES ITS TARGET!

WAIT! THERE'S STILL ANOTHER CHANCE! IF I CAN CONTACT HANK THROUGH HIS CYBERNETIC HELMET!

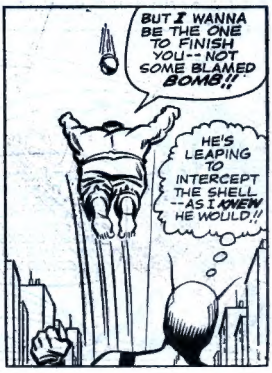
OUR HELMETS ARE DESIGNED FOR THOUGHT COMMUNICATION OVER SHORT DISTANCES! WE'RE CLOSE ENOUGH NOW! OH, HANK, MY DARLING--READ ME--READ ME!!

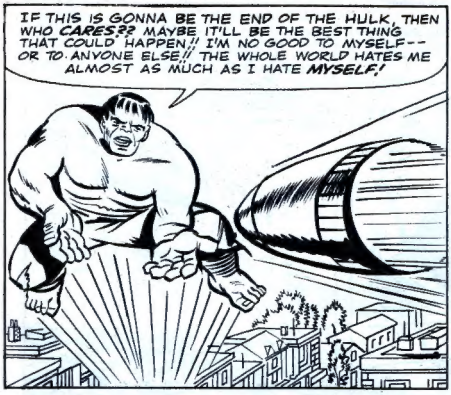
AND, A MICRO-SECOND LATER...
YOU'VE DONE ALL YOU CAN, JAN! JUMP! JUMP BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!!
PRETENDING TO TALK TO SOMEONE BEHIND ME!! YOU DON'T FOOL ME WITH THAT TRICK!!

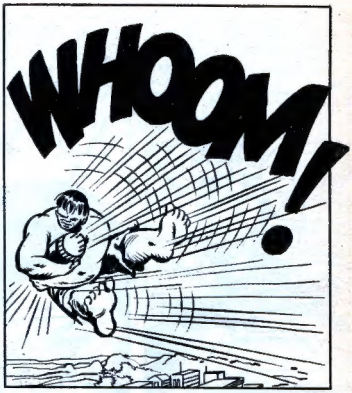

I DID IT! I WARNED HIM! BUT-- WHAT CAN HE DO NOW TO SAVE HIMSELF??!

HULK, LISTEN TO ME! LOOK INTO THE SKY--DIRECTLY OVERHEAD! THAT'S AN ATOMIC SHELL COMING THIS WAY! IF IT STRIKES, WE BOTH DIE! ONLY YOU CAN SAVE US!

I'M NOT SO SURE! I THINK I COULD SURVIVE A SMALL ATOMIC BLAST! BUT YOU SURE CAN'T!!


BUT I WANNA BE THE ONE TO FINISH YOU--NOT SOME BLAMED BOMB!!
HE'S LEAPING TO INTERCEPT THE SHELL --AS I KNEW HE WOULD!!


IF THIS IS GONNA BE THE END OF THE HULK, THEN WHO CARES?? MAYBE IT'LL BE THE BEST THING THAT COULD HAPPEN!! I'M NO GOOD TO MYSELF-- OR TO ANYONE ELSE!! THE WHOLE WORLD HATES ME ALMOST AS MUCH AS I HATE MYSELF!


WHOOM!

WATCHING FROM A SAFE DISTANCE, THE HUMAN TOP SEES HIS SINISTER SCHEME RUINED BY THE POWER OF THE HULK!
WHY DID HE DO IT?? WHY DID HE SAVE GIANT-MAN???

THERE'S NO TELLING WHERE HE'LL LAND WITH THAT THING! I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE!

BUT, AS A CAPRICIOUS FATE WOULD HAVE IT, THE HULK FINALLY HURLS THE ATOMIC SHELL UP INTO THE HILLS...
THERE!! NOTHING'LL FEEL IT WHEN IT EXPLODES EXCEPT FOR A FEW ROCKS AND SOME SAND DUNES!! LOOKS LIKE MY TIME HASN'T COME YET!

...AND THE POTENT SHELL FINALLY EXPLODES IN THE SAME HILLS WHERE THE HUMAN TOP HAD TAKEN REFUGE...!
HE SAVED ME-- BUT WHAT ABOUT THE HULK?? WAS HE HIMSELF CAUGHT IN THE SHOCK WAVE OF THE EXPLOSION??

FOR THE ANSWER TO GIANT-MAN'S QUESTION, LET'S RETURN TO THE MOST POWERFUL OF ALL OF EARTH'S MORTALS...
BEIN' TOSSED LIKE A FEATHER IN THE BREEZE,! EVERYTHING SPINNIN' ROUND -- BLACKING OUT--!
LATER, AFTER THE SMOKE HAS CLEARED FROM THE MODERN, LOW-YIELD ATOMIC SHELL, A FORM BEGINS TO STIR ON THE SPOT WHERE THE HULK HAD FALLEN...
BUT, IT IS NOT THE MASSIVE FORM OF THE RAMPAGING MAN-BRUTE,! IT IS THE SLIM, GAUNT FIGURE OF DR. ROBERT BRUCE BANNER.!
I'M ALIVE,! I-I'VE CHANGED BACK TO MYSELF AGAIN,! THE FORCE OF THE EXPLOSION MUST HAVE DONE IT.!
AND, A SHORT TIME LATER...
DAD! OH, DAD--LOOK! GIANT-MAN WAS RIGHT! IT'S BRUCE--THE HULK DIDN'T HARM HIM.!
HUNDREDS OF RUGGED, HUSKY MILITARY MEN IN MY COMMAND -- BUT THAT SCATTER-BRAINED DAUGHTER OF MINE HAS TO FALL FOR A SKINNY, WEAKLING PENCIL PUSHER,! BAH!
WELL, JAN, IT LOOKS LIKE I FAILED,! I COULDN'T CONVINCE THE HULK TO JOIN THE AVENGERS!
BUT YOU SAW HIM SAVE YOUR LIFE AT THE END,! PERHAPS, IN A WAY, YOU SUCCEEDED MORE THAN YOU KNOW!
THE NEXT DAY, GIANT-MAN AND THE WASP ARE BACK AT HOME FOR A REGULARLY-SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE AVENGERS...
ALL MEMBERS PRESENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR, SO THE MEETING WILL COME TO ORDER,!
WE'VE NO URGENT BUSINESS TODAY,! THINGS HAVE BEEN QUIET IN TOWN SINCE LAST MEETING!
INDEED,! THEN NOBODY HAS ANYTHING TO REPORT,!
A
DAILY NEWS
DR. ZEMO REPORTS
OH WELL, THAT'S THE WAY THE MOP FLOPS,! I GUESS WE CAN'T EXPECT TO HAVE A RIP-SNORTING ADVENTURE EVERY TIME WE STEP OUT OF THE DOOR,!
BLUE EYES, YOU'RE A CAUTION,!
NEXT ISH! MORE THRILLS AND SURPRISES WITH THE BIGGEST MAN AND THE TINIEST GAL IN ADVENTUREDOM,! DON'T MISS IT,!

A Power House PIN-UP
Princess Python
Reg. T.M. & © Marvel Comics Group.